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# FOREIGN CROPS AND MARKETS.

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## CROP PROSPECTS.

### FALL PLANTINGS FOR 1924.

Canada has sown 767,200 acres of fall wheat compared with 947,900 acres in 1922. Fall wheat, however, represented only 4 per cent of the total wheat acreage in 1923. The acreage this fall is a 19 per cent decrease from the sown acreage in 1922 and a 6 per cent decrease from the acreage harvested.

The condition of fall wheat is average for the Dominion, Ontario reporting considerably above. Fall plowing, generally, was delayed in the western provinces. Of land intended for next year's crop 43 per cent has been plowed as against 48 per cent last year.

### CORN

Corn production in Roumania is now estimated at 174,124,000 bushels in a radio received November 25 from the International Institute of Agriculture at Rome. This compares with 116,050,000 bushels last year.

### POTATOES.

The total production of potatoes reported to date from 20 countries is 3,504,329,000 bushels compared with 4,512,530,000 bushels last year. This indicates a decrease of about 22 per cent in the total production for 1923. Only two countries, Spain and Hungary report increased production in 1923. Last year these same 20 countries produced 70.4 per cent of the total production.

## TRADE PRICE AND PRODUCTION NOTES.

The United States imports between 8,000,000 and 9,000,000 pounds of chicle annually, more than two thirds of these imports coming from Mexico. British Honduras is our second source of supply.

In 1923, the United States imported 98,000 long tons of sisal grass as compared with the prewar average of 140,000 tons, a decrease of 30 per cent. Mexico supplies about 90 per cent of these imports.

During the last few years, exports of agricultural products from the United States to Mexico show a big increase, the increase in exports of eggs, lard, condensed, evaporated and powdered milk being especially noticeable. In 1923, 6,600,000 dozen more eggs were exported to Mexico than the average for the prewar years, or an increase of 944 per cent; 38,000,000 pounds more lard, an increase of 570 per cent and 3,000,000 pounds more condensed, evaporated and powdered milk, an increase of 332 per cent.

Exports of meats and meat products from the United States for the 4 months ending October 31, 1923 amounted to 715,000,000 pounds as against 591,000,000 pounds during the same period a year ago. This was an increase of 21 per cent. Exports of bacon, hams and lard made up most of this increase.

Exports of principal agricultural products from the United States for the 4 months, July 1 to October 31, 1923 were valued at \$404,000,000 as compared with \$602,000,000 a year ago, a decrease of more than 33 per cent. Smaller shipments of grains and cotton account for most of this decrease.

## LIVESTOCK IN GERMANY.

Reports from certain provinces indicate that livestock in Germany has increased from 3 per cent in case of cattle to 21 per cent in the case of hogs during the year 1923. Indications are that sheep increased 11 per cent and goats 13 per cent. These estimates do not take into account the fall slaughtering between October 1 and December 1. The estimate for the whole of the German Republic is made as of December 1.

## PRODUCTION OF POTATOES IN COUNTRIES REPORTING FOR 1923.

Potatoes.	Production.		Per Cent of 1922.	
	1922.	1923.	Decrease.	Increase.
	: 1,000 bushels:	: 1,000 bushels:	Per Cent	Per Cent
Estimates previously received : and unrevised, 4 countries reporting.....	214,881	131,930	38.6	:
Estimates recently received:	:	:	:	:
Canada.....	92,903	87,590	5.7	:
United States.....	451,185	416,722	7.6	:
England and Wales.....	149,781	99,568	33.5	:
Norway.....	32,699	28,610	12.5	:
Sweden.....	74,783	61,251	18.1	:
Belgium.....	144,453	86,853	38.4	:
Luxemburg.....	7,007	6,173	11.9	:
Spain.....	108,593	95,497	12.1	:
Italy.....	53,689	62,464	16.3	:
Germany.....	1,494,181	1,156,305	22.6	:
Czechoslovakia.....	353,236	251,066	30.7	:
Hungary.....	48,490	63,043	30.0	:
Poland.....	1,220,575	903,443	25.9	:
Lithuania.....	67,903	55,171	18.7	:
Finland.....	16,009	15,816	1.2	:
Algeria.....	2,146	327	61.4	:
Total 20 countries.....	4,512,530	3,504,329	22.3	:
All countries reporting : 1922.....	6,409,608	:	:	:

Source: Official sources and International Institute of Agriculture, Rome.

## PRODUCTION OF SUGAR BEETS IN COUNTRIES REPORTING FOR 1923.

Country.	Production.		Per Cent of 1922.	
	Estimates 1922.	Forecasts 1923.	Decrease.	Increase.
1,000 Short Tons.	1,000 Short Tons.	Per Cent	Per Cent	
Estimates previously received and unrevised, 13 countries reporting.....	26,845	27,209		1.4
Estimates recently received: United States.....	5,183	6,667		28.6
Total 19 countries reporting.....	32,028	33,876		5.8

Source: Official sources and International Institute of Agriculture.

## ARGENTINE FLAXSEED CROP.

Production of flaxseed in Argentina is estimated at 75,960,000 bushels for 1923-24 as compared with 44,280,000 bushels for 1922-23, according to a report from the Argentine Embassy quoting the Ministry of Statistics and Rural Economy. Area sown has increased from 4,194,000 acres to 5,300,000 acres. These figures show an increase of 72 per cent in total production.

EXPORTS OF GRAINS AND WHEAT FLOUR FROM THE PRINCIPAL EXPORTING COUNTRIES, IMPORTS OF WHEAT AND WHEAT FLOUR INTO THE UNITED STATES, AND SHIPMENTS OF CANADIAN WHEAT AND WHEAT FLOUR THROUGH THE UNITED STATES IN TRANSIT, JULY TO OCTOBER, 1922 AND 1923, AND NOVEMBER 3 TO NOVEMBER 24, 1923.

Commodity:	Unit:	July to October		1923		
				Week ending:	Week ending:	Week endin
		1922	1923	Nov. 10	Nov. 17	Nov. 17
Exports from U.S.:		: Preliminary	: Preliminary	: Preliminary	: Preliminary	
Barley.....	Bu.:	11,215	6,867	20	115	419
Corn.....	" :	46,171	3,574	79	150	215
Oats.....	" :	13,365	820	131	76	83
Rye.....	" :	20,726	8,082	86	141	653
Wheat.....	" :	92,951	47,689	1,380	1,935	2,717
Wheat flour.....	Bbls:	4,901	5,818	359	458	464
Wheat, including flour..	Bu.:	115,004	73,868	2,997	3,995	4,805
Imports into U.S.:		:	:	:	:	:
Wheat.....	Bu.:	7,570	6,500	:	:	:
Wheat flour.....	Bbls:	179	70	:	:	:
Wheat, including flour..	Bu. :	8,376	6,815	:	:	:
In transit shipments from Canada:		:	:	:	:	:
Wheat.....	Bu. :	13,886	26,282	1,251	1,565	1,462
Wheat flour.....	Bbls:	616	1,068	15	2	10
(1) Exports from Canada:		:	:	:	:	:
Wheat.....	Bu. :	67,900	58,454	:	:	:
Wheat flour.....	Bbls:	2,630	3,044	:	:	:
Wheat, including flour..	Bu. :	79,735	72,151	:	:	:
Exports from Argentina:		:	:	:	:	:
Wheat.....	Bu. :	33,311	34,986	:	:	:
Corn.....	" :	38,938	52,254	:	:	:
Exports from British India:		:	:	:	:	:
Wheat, including flour....	Bu. :	849	9,200	:	:	:
Exports from Australia:		:	:	:	:	:
Wheat, including flour....	Bu. :	9,373	16,365	:	:	:

(1) Includes "In transit shipments from Canada".

SOURCE: Monthly Summaries of Foreign Commerce of the United States and other Preliminary Reports of the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce, Monthly Reports of the Trade of Canada, Estadistica Agro-Pecuaria, International Yearbook of Agricultural Statistics, 1922, and Broomhall's Corn Trade News.

WHEAT AND WHEAT FLOUR: EXPORTS FROM THE UNITED STATES DURING OCTOBER,  
1922 AND 1923.

	: Wheat including flour:						
	: in terms of grain.	: Wheat.					Wheat flour.
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	: July-Oct. : July-Oct. : Oct. : Oct. : Oct. : Oct. : Oct.						
	: 1922. : 1923. : 1922. : 1923. : 1922. : 1923.						
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	: Bushels. : Bushels. : Bushels. : Bushels. : Barrels. : Barrels.						
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Belgium.....	6,359,036	3,136,500	834,799	435,494	5,119	5,718	
Denmark.....	253,228	427,206	---	7,625	15,132	32,878	
Estonia.....	85,959	19,269	---	---	1,628	2,348	
Finland.....	693,027	1,069,500	---	---	47,387	79,134	
France.....	9,131,224	2,051,101	2,445,902	282,618	657	339	
Germany.....	8,510,020	3,554,076	299,906	28,062	155,128	182,788	
Gibraltar.....	1,051,998	1,130	297,000	---	301	---	
Greece.....	76,184	809,388	---	---	10,314	57,343	
Italy.....	15,133,263	2,830,410	3,980,910	317,789	17,916	10,268	
Malta, Gozo, Cyprus	221,452	110,024	18,317	16,149	2,133	714	
Netherlands.....	9,906,775	6,113,394	695,386	562,122	105,884	182,869	
Norway.....	1,663,735	262,131	550,875	67,200	20,144	23,267	
Poland & Danzig..	33,440	100,854	---	---	5,638	9,612	
Russia in Europe..	1,136,060	1,134	---	---	75,980	---	
Sweden.....	402,234	486,352	24,000	36,165	9,325	22,823	
Turkey in Europe..	983,502	264,005	---	---	73,069	5,432	
Ukraine.....	440,504	---	---	---	250	---	
United Kingdom....	20,302,193	12,265,181	3,185,964	2,494,636	191,076	149,108	
Other Europe....	123,589	78,206	1,867	---	9,122	4,199	
TOTAL EUROPE..	76,507,428	33,629,861	12,334,926	4,247,860	746,203	768,840	
Canada.....	22,775,448	16,281,146	4,140,695	836,533	8,124	10,635	
Cuba.....	1,519,568	1,518,929	1,917	3,711	92,586	88,748	
Mexico.....	592,626	1,386,779	82,961	179,069	29,160	46,574	
Panama.....	141,700	975,108	---	---	3,389	4,598	
China.....	2,439,680	8,706,458	150,003	2,886,469	207,175	557,829	
Hongkong.....	1,713,162	1,445,823	---	---	100,685	103,416	
Kwantung.....	939,218	1,090,161	---	---	51,000	181,258	
Japan.....	3,356,662	4,018,314	1,413,639	1,073,759	19,430	11,507	
Other countries..	5,018,896	4,815,445	157,999	11,233	252,300	318,517	
TOTAL.....	115,004,388	73,868,024	18,282,140	9,238,634	1,510,052	2,091,922	
Total imports....	8,375,666	6,814,757	2,566,109	2,833,673	50,684	19,383	
Total re-exports..	53,033	1,822	51,769	(1)	281	(1)	405
EXCESS EXPORTS...	106,681,755	67,055,089	15,767,800	6,404,961	1,459,649	2,072,944	

Source: Official Reports of the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce.

(1) Not yet available, July to September only.

## CONSUMPTION AND STOCK OF COTTON IN GERMANY

Decreased consumption of cotton by German mills during the season just ended as compared with the pre-war average consumption is reported to the United States Department of Agriculture by the American Agricultural Commissioner, Mr. E. C. Squire, at Berlin, under date of October 30. Consumption during the 1922-23 season is placed at 853,500 bales as compared with 1,874,000 bales, the average for the three years 1911-13. This is a drop of over 1,000,000 bales or approximately 54%. A portion of this reduction is accounted for by the fact that 2,000,000 spindles were in Alsace and therefore Germany's spindles were reduced in 1920 by that number, a reduction of about 17%.

Consumption of American cotton by German mills amounted to 622,500 bales this year as compared with the pre-war average of 1,404,000 bales, or a decrease of about 56%. Due to the increasing lack of credit facilities, the present supply of cotton goods in Germany is almost as low as it was at the end of the war when the country was practically bare of all cotton products. To remedy this situation the Association of German Cotton Spinners is urging that American bankers and shippers grant more favorable commercial and financial credits.

There was a great demand for raw cotton in Germany at the beginning of 1919, as the supplies of cotton goods had been entirely exhausted during the blockade of the previous three years. Consumption consequently increased steadily from 485,000 bales during the 1919-20 season to 1,083,000 bales in 1921-22. The same upward trend was noted in stocks held in the mills, these having increased from 68,400 bales on July 31, 1920, to 176,000 bales on July 31, 1922. Increased purchases were stimulated by the expectation that a solution would be found for the reparations problem, thus enabling the stabilization of German currency. Subsequent events caused a rapid decrease in the purchases of raw cotton so that consumption during 1922-23 was 229,500 bales below that for the previous twelve months, while stocks in mills on July 31, 1923, amounted to only 90,000 bales.

Before the war much of the cotton consumed in Germany was contracted for before it left the United States. Due to the development of financial difficulties after the war, the mills were able to purchase only from stocks actually on hand in Bremen. The continual decrease in their working capital, however, forced still further adjustments, so that at present American dealers ship direct to the warehouses of the more responsible German mills, receiving cash payment as the cotton is removed for spinning. The Association of German Cotton Spinners is urging that American dealers accept a short term acceptance (60 or 90 days) instead of cash payment.

## CONSUMPTION AND STOCKS OF COTTON IN GERMANY, CONT'D.

Such other facilities as have been provided for the marketing of American cotton include a system of merchandise credits whereby credits are granted for three months at from 10 to 15% per annum. The Association of German Cotton Spinners believes that such a high rate of interest works to the detriment of all concerned. If these interest charges are added to the cost of the finished product, it means adding on to the already prohibitive prices for the German consumer. If the interest charges are not added on, it means that an extremely large percentage of the profits of the mills will have to be used for paying interest. Spinners state that if American dealers could extend these same credits from three to six months at a rate of interest ranging from 5 1/2 to 7 1/2%, depending on the nature of the transaction, the sale of cotton goods in Germany would receive a great impetus. The Dutch Government has granted German industries a credit of about 140,000,000 guilders (\$56,280,000 at par) for the purchase of raw materials. The Credit Association which handles this fund and looks after the securities and repayment of loans states that the larger part of it is being used for financing purchases of raw material from the United States. The German cotton mills are also making use of this credit. The rate of interest charged is 6 1/2%.

The following table gives complete and up-to-date figures for the consumption and stocks of cotton in Germany since the war.

Season	Consumption		Carryover in German Mills.	
	Total	American	Total	American
	Bales	Bales	Bales	Bales
1911-13 Average (old boundaries)	: 1,874,000	: 1,404,000	: -----	: -----
Aug. 1, 1919-July 31, 1920 (new boundaries)	: 485,000	: 356,000	: 68,400	: 36,400
Aug. 1, 1920-Jan. 31, 1921	: 393,000	: 265,000	: 132,000	: 85,000
Feb. 1, 1921-July 31, 1921	: 457,000	: 344,000	: 176,000	: 120,000
Aug. 1, 1921-Jan. 31, 1922	: 535,000	: 406,000	: 185,000	: 131,500
Feb. 1, 1922-July 31, 1922	: 548,000	: 421,000	: 176,000	: 116,500
Aug. 1, 1922-Jan. 31, 1923	: 488,500	: 360,500	: 98,000	: 60,300
Feb. 1, 1923-July 31, 1923	: 365,000	: 262,000	: 90,000	: 52,000
	:	:	:	:

EXPORTS OF PRINCIPAL AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS FROM THE UNITED STATES FROM JULY 1,  
TO OCTOBER 31, 1922 AND 1923.

Article Exported:	:	Quantity 1922	:	Quantity 1923	:	Value 1922	:	Value 1923
	:		:		:	Dollars	:	Dollars
Wheat.....	Bu.	92,950,788	:	47,688,563	:	114,053,984	:	53,489,553
Wheat flour.....	Bbls.	4,900,800	:	5,817,658	:	27,305,912	:	30,120,282
Wheat, including flour..	Bu.	115,004,388	:	73,868,024	:	141,359,896	:	83,609,840
Corn, including meal.....	Bu.	46,774,048	:	4,213,390	:	35,072,814	:	4,255,766
Rye, including flour.....	Bu.	20,816,276	:	8,254,517	:	17,788,919	:	6,579,152
Barley, excluding flour..	Bu.	11,215,473	:	6,865,649	:	8,032,194	:	5,091,901
Oats, including oatmeal..	Bu.	15,636,331	:	4,285,512	:	7,941,552	:	2,501,288
Buckwheat, incl., flour..	Bu.	20,550	:	13,029	:	24,542	:	16,137
Rice, incl., flour, meal, & broken rice.....	Lbs.	86,246,380	:	93,247,054	:	3,394,061	:	3,395,611
Dairy Products:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Butter.....	Lbs.	5,220,856	:	1,677,032	:	1,905,232	:	732,031
Cheese.....	Lbs.	1,383,575	:	1,273,196	:	341,716	:	352,655
Milk:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Condensed.....	Lbs.	13,158,840	:	19,290,135	:	1,722,853	:	2,886,738
Evaporated.....	Lbs.	33,525,404	:	34,523,055	:	2,795,708	:	3,612,325
Powdered.....	Lbs.	987,594	:	678,740	:	145,560	:	173,735
Meat & Meat Products:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Canned beef.....	Lbs.	1,017,173	:	520,123	:	272,571	:	143,468
Fresh beef & veal.....	Lbs.	1,180,654	:	1,028,232	:	170,342	:	157,750
Pickled beef.....	Lbs.	9,847,275	:	8,675,920	:	831,107	:	2,172,470
Oleo oil.....	Lbs.	35,187,946	:	33,593,347	:	3,793,055	:	3,781,703
Oleomargarine.....	Lbs.	649,702	:	569,749	:	99,929	:	92,410
Stearin & fatty acids..	Lbs.	7,812,385	:	6,244,015	:	729,456	:	644,976
Tallow.....	Lbs.	8,785,882	:	17,819,958	:	702,852	:	1,387,582
Canned pork.....	Lbs.	769,572	:	770,127	:	285,602	:	257,948
Fresh pork.....	Lbs.	9,064,250	:	14,617,991	:	1,462,270	:	2,074,350
Pickled pork.....	Lbs.	14,855,932	:	17,173,065	:	1,770,619	:	1,929,954
Bacon.....	Lbs.	124,472,814	:	152,434,732	:	19,331,441	:	19,710,110
Hams & Shoulders.....	Lbs.	68,110,971	:	130,274,700	:	17,746,825	:	20,708,842
Lard.....	Lbs.	262,416,678	:	313,244,758	:	32,083,552	:	38,869,555
Lard neutral.....	Lbs.	7,242,300	:	3,881,390	:	953,666	:	1,744,201
Lard oil.....	Lbs.	318,917	:	311,047	:	38,499	:	35,958
Lard compounds.....	Lbs.	5,094,678	:	2,407,149	:	617,102	:	319,735
Mutton & Lamb.....	Lbs.	523,850	:	802,987	:	97,575	:	152,611
Sausage, canned.....	Lbs.	529,496	:	675,698	:	172,244	:	139,406
Sausage, other.....	Lbs.	2,865,894	:	3,009,458	:	794,978	:	757,725
Sausage, casings.....	Lbs.	9,959,355	:	7,289,929	:	2,162,784	:	1,616,333
TOTAL meats and meat products.....	Lbs.	590,706,224	:	715,344,381	:	84,116,469	:	96,747,087

EXPORTS OF PRINCIPAL AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS FROM THE UNITED STATES FROM JULY 1,  
TO OCTOBER 31, 1922 AND 1923.—CONTINUED.

Article Exported:	Quantity	Quantity	Value	Value
	1922	1923	1922	1923
Sugar.....Lbs.:	330,942,507:	50,827,722:	14,212,494:	1,998,429
Cotton, 500 lb., bales.....Lbs.:	1,879,663:	1,538,110:	210,229,915:	117,153,548
Tobacco, incl., trimmings.....Lbs.:	55,214,726:	166,433,870:	48,879,540:	49,859,330
Glucose (corn syrup).....Lbs.:	60,787,422:	33,624,357:	1,716,619:	1,158,313
Starch, corn.....Lbs.:	119,756,862:	62,466,358:	2,937,399:	1,946,488
Hops.....Lbs.:	771,130:	5,643,371:	122,326:	1,959,952
Cottonseed cake & meal.....Lbs.:	185,957,698:	78,383,598:	3,858,953:	1,676,509
Linseed cake & meal.....Lbs.:	145,704,644:	161,783,900:	4,739,515:	3,266,523
Cottonseed oil.....Lbs.:	11,673,673:	8,238,412:	1,236,366:	900,556
Fruits:	:	:	:	:
Apples, fresh.....Bbls.:	1,430,254:	1,317,084:	2,501,431:	7,241,813
Apples, dried.....Lbs.:	2,652,306:	3,582,880:	302,810:	307,662
Prunes.....Lbs.:	17,639,946:	18,750,162:	1,627,575:	1,560,828
Apricots.....Lbs.:	7,579,480:	12,191,908:	1,864,009:	1,380,892
Raisins.....Lbs.:	31,823,441:	36,203,907:	3,568,362:	3,464,112
GRAND TOTAL.....:	:	:	602,438,831:	403,829,221

Source: Official Reports of the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce.

#### ITALY ENCOURAGES WHEAT PRODUCTION.

In an attempt to produce its own wheat supply, a contest has been arranged in Italy with prizes for the successful competitors. Ten money prizes will be awarded ranging from 5,000 lire to 250 lire. In addition to money prizes, 100 certificates of merit will be awarded to those having the next highest yields. In order to be eligible to compete, a farmer must grow at least 1 hectare of wheat and must register with the local agricultural society, agricultural school, or Fascisti Syndicate by April 1, 1924. The Government is furnishing the money.

Production of wheat in Italy in 1923 exceeded the average production for the last ten years by 52,400,000 bushels. This will considerably reduce the amount of wheat necessary to be imported from foreign countries. According to "La Voce," October 27, 1923, this reduces the amount of money which will be expended from foreign wheat by 1 1/2 billion lire.

The Fascisti attribute the increased production to the favorable crop season which has just passed, together with a greater feeling of security and the renewed energy of the farmers under the Fascisti Government. The article states that low yields in certain sections are not justified, when compared with abundant yields in the more progressive regions. Under the proper methods of cultivation, it is believed that Italy will be able to produce its own bread supply.

## THE AGRICULTURAL SITUATION IN MEXICO.

Mexico has an average density of population of about 22 people per square mile according to the latest estimates of population. The total area of the country is 766,141 square miles. Internal troubles have been a great hindrance to Mexican agriculture during the past ten or twelve years. In fact statistical information has been decidedly lacking. The census of 1910 covered population only and the returns of the agricultural census taken recently are not yet available to the public. In 1922, however, the Ministry of Agriculture made an estimate of the acreage and production of the principal crops. These estimates appear elsewhere in this issue.

Corn is the principal crop in Mexico, and in 1907 the production was over 200,000,000 bushels. It is also the chief food product for the population. Beans, chick peas, sisal and coffee are other crops of importance.

In Mexico agriculture has generally taken second place in the list of national industries. In other words, mining has been, and perhaps still is the chief export resource of the country. Yet there are soil and climatic factors suitable to a considerable expansion in agriculture.

Mexico furnishes an important market for American pork products, wheat, cattle, eggs and canned milk. Although corn is the most important of the Mexican crops, being the staple diet for most of the population, domestic production in 1922 had to be supplemented by imports of 3,350,000 bushels from the United States, and by almost 12,000,000 bushels during 1921 when Mexico had a poor crop.

Exports of lard from the United States to Mexico during 1922 totaled 43,900,000 lbs. Exports of other pork products, chiefly ham and shoulders, amounted to more than 1,400,000 lbs. In the same year, we exported to that country 2,847,200 bushels of wheat 9,072,000 dozen of eggs, and over 3,500,000 lbs. of condensed, evaporated and dried milk. We also exported to Mexico 71,173 head of cattle valued at \$2,408,900, many of them being pure blooded pedigree animals.

Our chief imports of Mexican agricultural commodities in 1922 included 78,000 short tons of fibers and textile grasses, chiefly henequin sisal from Yucatan, 20,079,957 lbs. of raw cotton, 37,800,973 lbs. of coffee, 41,803,268 lbs. of cane sugar, and \$2,289,551 worth of fruits and vegetables.

Lack of proper distribution and storage facilities constitute one of the greatest hindrances to agricultural development in Mexico, according to Consul Thomas A. Bowman at Mexico City. The domestic corn crop during recent years, he says, would have supplied the needs of the population if it could have been conserved and distributed over the non-productive periods. There are no large granaries nor any organized cold storage facilities, and the climate is such that grain cannot be kept any length of time without scientific care. Not only are transportation facilities inadequate but the present cost of the service is so high that farmers living long distances from large consuming centers are unable to ship their products at a profit. They depend solely on local markets for an outlet.

The Consul reports further that Mexican agriculture in general is passing through an interesting phase of development. The bulk of the farming is carried on by a limited class of planters who own enormous areas of land. The prevailing threat of confiscation of large estates under the Agrarian Law has caused these estate owners to reduce planting. It has also made it difficult for them to obtain credit should they desire to plant more extensively. The purpose of the Agrarian Law is to break up the estates and develop a class of independent small farmers from the peons. Preliminary to the development of such a class, however, it will be necessary to educate the peon in modern agricultural methods and to give him financial assistance.

Imports of agricultural machinery into Mexico during the past three years have greatly declined. The Consul states that the books of the largest American concerns supplying the Mexican market show that sales in 1922 were but 25% of those in 1921. The lack of progress made in agricultural methods and the comparative low cost of labor have no doubt operated to minimize the advantages of labor saving devices. In many districts of Mexico, farming methods are still primitive although the Federal Ministry of Agriculture is now actively engaged in encouraging improved methods of agriculture.

## POPULATION.

There has been an increase of nearly 2,000,000 in the population of Mexico since 1910, according to estimates made public by the Pan American Union. The 1910 census of population gave a total of 15,054,121 for all of Mexico. The estimates for 1921 total 17,005,000. These estimates do not indicate unusual increases in certain particular States, but are more or less general throughout the whole of Mexico. The one possible exception to this is the State of Tamaulipas, where the population is estimated to have increased from 249,253 in 1910 to 400,000 in 1921. Tamaulipas includes a goodly portion of the Tampico oil district, and it is probable that the increase in population is largely industrial.

## CONSERVATION OF RURAL POPULATION IN MEXICO.

The Mexican Department of Agriculture is taking active measures for the conservation of her rural population. A campaign for the upbuilding of the farm, through the farm home, is already well on its way among the villages of the central States. Two railway cars were granted for the purpose by the President of Mexico, one serving as a hall for the small hamlets where no public building is available, and the other car to be used as living quarters for the persons who are carrying on the campaign. The exhibit centers around colored posters, including such subjects as sanitary housing, food selection, home hygiene, child care, food values, and education.

Source: Bulletin of Pan-American Union, May, 1923, page 453.

## AREA AND POPULATION OF MEXICO, 1910 AND 1921.

States	: Square miles	: Census, 1910	: Estimated, 1921
Aguascalientes .....	2,969	118,978	125,000
Campeche .....	18,086	85,795	90,000
Chiapas .....	27,222	436,817	560,000
Chihuahua .....	89,974	405,265	500,000
Coahuila .....	63,728	367,652	400,000
Colima .....	2,172	77,704	80,000
Durango .....	42,265	436,147	500,000
Guanajuato .....	10,948	1,075,270	1,100,000
Guerrero .....	24,995	605,437	750,000
Hidalgo .....	3,575	641,895	750,000
Jalisco .....	33,496	1,202,802	1,280,000
Mexico .....	8,849	975,019	1,100,000
Michoacan .....	22,656	991,649	1,050,000
Morelos .....	2,733	179,814	210,000
Nayarit .....	10,951	171,837	200,000
Nuevo Leon .....	23,678	368,929	420,000
Oaxaca .....	35,382	1,041,035	1,100,000
Puebla .....	12,203	1,092,456	1,100,000
Queretaro .....	4,492	243,515	260,000
San Luis Potosi .....	25,323	624,748	700,000
Sinaloa .....	27,552	323,499	400,000
Sonora .....	76,619	262,545	350,000
Tabasco .....	10,072	183,708	210,000
Tamaulipas .....	31,758	249,253	400,000
Tlaxcala .....	1,594	183,805	210,000
Veracruz .....	29,283	1,124,368	1,400,000
Yucatan .....	15,939	327,911	390,000
Zacatecas .....	24,457	475,863	500,000
Lower California, Territory ..	53,328	52,244	60,000
Quintana Roo, Territory ..	19,264	9,109	10,000
Federal District .....	578	719,052	800,000
Total .....	766,141	15,054,121	17,005,000

Source: Pan American Union Bulletin entitled "Mexico," page 18, 1921.

## AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION IN MEXICO

Information on agricultural production in Mexico during the period 1907 and 1922 is very limited. The information for 1922 indicates general decreases in the major crops. This is difficult to explain in the face of an increase of 2,000,000 in population. For example, production of corn in 1907 was about 206,000,000 bushels. In 1922 the reported production is 68,000,000 bushels. The production per acre according to the 1922 estimates is comparable with pre-war production, but the amount available per capita consumption is about one-third. It would seem that the production data for 1922 are incomplete.

## ACREAGE AND PRODUCTION OF CEREALES, LEGUMES AND VEGETABLES IN MEXICO.

Crop	Acreage		Production	
	1922		1907	
	Acres	Bushels	Bushels	Bushels
Corn .....	4,284,479	205,736,703		68,260,123
Barley .....	697,030	10,839,662		3,886,767
Wheat .....	1,419,444	11,467,945		13,626,064
Vetch .....	899	360,042		26,711
Kidney beans .....	2,841,650	5,997,399		4,232,389
Chick peas .....	87,417	1,543,119		1,949,787
Broad beans .....	11,105	973,297		330,300
Lentils .....	329	41,669		4,897
Castor beans .....	79	30,441		8,111
Potatoes .....	623,483	48,120,579		927,109
Sweet potatoes ...	3,180	1,093,376		928,360
Red tomatoes .....	20,470	444,620		971,663
		Pounds		Pounds
Rice .....	54,132	44,752,475		44,489,428
Cabbage .....	10	14,989,042		174,163
Onions .....	4,334	21,531,557		34,006
Garlic .....	6,694	4,639,312		298,679
Mangos .....	185	47,002,559		13,231,899
Yuco .....	51	8,061,155		6,128,788

Source: "Quarterly Synopsis" of actual yield for the year, 1922, issued by the Mexican Secretary of Agriculture; and 1913 Annuario Stadistico, Mexico.

## AREA AND PRODUCTION OF FRUIT AND NUTS IN MEXICO, 1907 AND 1922.

Crops	Acreage 1922	Production		
		1907		1922
		Acres	Pounds	
<u>Fruit:</u>				
Pumpkins.....	1,107	56,380,654		98,766,080
Oranges.....	13,343	83,813,568		23,811,885
Pineapples.....	227	11,483,230		30,423,480
Bananas.....	10,766	.....		72,044,454
Cantaloupes.....	106,196	.....		473,739,880
Melons.....	25	18,638,802		11,023,000
Sugar apple.....	198	2,138,951		1,322,760
		Bushels		Bushels
Apples.....	111	2,335,542		629
Peaches.....	49	1,520,147		689
	Acres	Pounds	Pounds	
<u>Nuts:</u>				
Coquito nuts.....	284	.....		61,728
Coconuts.....	2,471	17,091,904		2,317,035
Walnuts.....	49	3,353,505		94,798
		Short tons		Short tons
Peanuts	10,789	5,061		1,443

Source: "Quarterly Synopsis" of actual yield for the year 1922, issued by the Mexican Secretary of Agriculture.

## THE NEW LAND TAX IN MEXICO.

The new land tax of one-tenth of 1 per cent, which was established by decree of October 11, 1922, has been the object of vigorous protests from agricultural interests in Mexico. The date for the enforcement of this decree has been postponed from time to time and is now fixed at January 1, 1924.

Meantime, the new secretary of Hacienda has announced a conference of representative landowners to meet in Mexico City and study the law carefully, presumably with the view to amendments. It is predicted in some quarters that the law is to be repealed, but there is no official indication of this.

Source: Consul Thomas D. Bowman, Mexico City, October 19, report appearing in Commerce Reports, November 19, 1923, page 519.

## ACREAGE AND PRODUCTION OF FIBER AND INDUSTRIAL CROPS IN MEXICO.

Crops.	Acreage.	Production.	
	1922.	1907.	1922.
<u>Fiber:</u>	<u>Acres.</u>	<u>Bales.</u>	<u>Bales.</u>
Cotton.....	242,277	155,115	178,236
Sisal.....	448,568	1,000 Pounds.	1,000 Pounds.
Flax.....	912	16,151	4,067
Ixtle (fiber)	71,286	138,378	25,441
<u>Industrial:</u>			
Sugarcane.....	111,000	6,089,147	4,849,257
Tobacco.....	12,938	42,569	23,085
Chili peppers....	15,310	29,350	40,873
Cacao.....	4,198	6,854	1,498
Coffee.....	499,011	110,480	89,043
Vanilla.....	2,580	626	230
Sesame.....	49,506	Bushels.	Bushels.
		6,480,910	9,938,000

Source: "Quarterly Synopsis" of actual production for the year 1922, issued by the Mexican Secretary of Agriculture.

MEXICO - PRINCIPAL AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES: IMPORTS INTO THE UNITED STATES FROM MEXICO, YEARS ENDING JUNE 30, AVERAGE, 1910-14, 1922, 1923 AND JULY TO OCTOBER, 1923.

Commodity:	Average 1910 - 14	1922	1923	July to Oct. 1923
Imports:	:	:	:	:
Chicle.....lbs.	2,532,193	5,446,716	6,229,250	838,795
Coffee....."	31,220,334	38,444,169	39,490,998	1,348,803
Cotton(unman.)...."	7,761,757	26,818,225	15,868,478	140,627
Sisal.....tons	128,314	64,720	77,383	20,876
Ixtle....."	9,234	9,232	10,818	4,565
Bananas.....bunches	1,176,389	1,104,374	1,189,090	790,958
Dried peas.....Bu.	(a) 385,055	429,874	26,048	—
Cattle hides.....lbs.	(b)	:	:	:
Dry.....	7,284,979	389,328	425,597	48,105
Green.....	21,109,230	729,280	3,866,166	68,010

(a) (Average 1912-14)

(b) (Average 1911-14)

SOURCE: 1910-14, Foreign Commerce and Navigation of the United States, Official Records, Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce, 1922 and 1923.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLE IMPORTS INTO UNITED STATES FROM MEXICO.

Importation of fruits and vegetables into the United States from Mexico takes place almost entirely during the period December to June. The shipments consist largely of tomatoes and mixed vegetables, some onions, cantaloupes and watermelons were shipped in car lots, but vegetable shipments are largely in mixed lots with the exception of tomatoes. These shipments are intended for the winter market in the United States, consequently, from July to December there are no shipments whatever. The following table shows the data in car lots by months. It covers railroad shipments only. In other words, it is not contended that this is the total importation.

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CARLOAD SHIPMENTS OF FRUITS AND VEGETABLES INTO THE UNITED STATES FROM MEXICO AS  
REPORTED BY IMPORTING RAILROADS AT PORTS OF ENTRY. (BOAT SHIPMENTS NOT INCLUDED.)

COMMODITIES	DEC:	JAN:	FEB:	MAR:	APR:	MAY:	JUN:	JUL:	(2)TOTAL
<u>Jan. 1, 1921 to Nov. 30, 1921.</u>									
Tomatoes	(1)	13	96	240	365	147	10	-	871
Watermelons	(1)	-	-	-	-	5	5	-	10
Total	-	13	96	240	365	152	15	-	881
<u>Dec. 1, 1921 to Nov. 30, 1922.</u>									
Cantaloupes	-	-	-	-	17	27	26	1	71
Mixed Vegetables	-	7	9	15	13	25	5	-	74
Onions	-	-	2	29	-	2	1	-	34
Tomatoes	5	62	220	274	388	175	9	-	1,133
Watermelons	-	-	-	-	-	7	1	-	8
Totals	5	69	231	318	418	236	42	1	1,320
<u>Dec. 1, 1922 to Nov. 30, 1923.</u>									
Mixed Vegetables	-	10	2	27	17	11	-	-	67
Tomatoes	24	21 $\frac{1}{4}$	383	41 $\frac{1}{4}$	472	291	3	-	1,801
Cabbage	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Onions	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	2
Cantaloupes	-	-	-	-	2	99	-	-	101
Watermelons	-	-	-	-	1	14	4	-	19
Total	24	22 $\frac{1}{4}$	385	44 $\frac{1}{4}$	493	415	7	-	1,991

NOTES: (1) No data available.

(2) No shipments reported for Aug., Sept., Oct., or Nov.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Agricultural Economics, Fruit and Vegetable Division.

MEXICO - PRINCIPAL AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES: EXPORTS FROM THE UNITED STATES TO MEXICO, FISCAL YEARS, AVERAGE 1912-14, 1922, 1923 AND JULY TO OCTOBER, 1923.

Commodity:	Unit	Average 1912-14	Years ending June 30			4 mo. July - October. 1923
			1922	1923		
Milk:						
Condensed.....	Lbs.	887,041	1,598,032	1,035,976		548,599
Evaporated.....	"	(1)	3,151,452	2,710,430		822,012
Powdered.....	"	(1)	92,169	84,803		34,001
Butter.....	"	308,768	866,259	904,153		249,992
Cheese.....	"	250,118	1,497,279	1,037,719		283,169
Oleomargarine.....	"	43,769	30,655	31,694		7,323
Eggs, in shell.....	Doz.	703,305	7,179,342	7,338,663		2,868,922
Breadstuffs:						
Wheat.....	Bu.	813,970	3,000,646	1,260,531		608,855
Wheat flour.....	Bbl.	31,979	245,670	365,664		172,872
Corn.....	Bu.	726,303	10,101,521	288,487		34,002
Rye.....	"	1	211	1,180		13,777
Barley.....	"	172,559	287,865	120,570		65,836
Oats.....	"	56,428	180,070	146,154		38,654
Oatmeal.....	Lbs.	297,747	1,576,700	1,948,708		781,985
Meats:						
Beef, fresh.....	Lbs.	15,361	660,329	303,954		97,674
Mutton, fresh.....	"	888	49,698	50,344		9,117
Pork, fresh.....	"	1,592	93,314	81,547		22,865
Beef, pickled and other cured.....	"	11,859	30,088	18,460		1,811
Pork, pickled.....	"	23,852	6,802	2,893		2,534
Bacon.....	"	321,117	416,135	395,045		141,374
Hams & shoulders...	"	690,269	889,958	1,027,949		390,793
Lard.....	"	6,709,600	44,435,678	44,951,072		13,324,306
Beef, canned.....	"	222,872	84,093	81,185		32,368
Pork, canned.....	"	45,386	39,425	29,109		8,580
Sausage, canned....	"	(2) 15,302	81,471	90,186		36,619
Livestock:						
Horses.....	No.	937	11,747	3,802		3,180
	\$	86,246	706,371	141,617		70,083
Mules.....	No.	356	3,235	6,065		3,152
	\$	89,842	553,232	489,034		191,683
Cattle.....	No.	8,348	106,151	49,223		14,143
	\$	299,716	3,818,469	1,609,321		388,970
Sheep.....	No.	6,187	44,125	2,857		1,058
	\$	24,512	130,152	18,084		5,958
Swine.....	No.	2,037	20,739	4,703		2,032
	\$	13,937	297,174	81,247		33,234

(1) Not given separately prior to 1920. (2) Two year average, 1913-14.

Source: Foreign Commerce and Navigation of the United States, 1914, and Official Record of Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce, 1922 and 1923.

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CHICORY: IMPORTS INTO THE UNITED STATES BY COUNTRIES, YEARS ENDING JUNE 30, AVE.  
1910-1914, 1921, 1922, 1923 AND JULY TO OCT. 1923.

<u>Country</u>	: Average :		1921	1922	1923	: July to Oct.:	
	: 1910-1914 :	: Pounds :				: 1923.	
	: Pounds :		: Pounds :		: Pounds :		
British Honduras...	1,136,544	3,416,273	2,303,004	1,949,306	153,290		
Canada .....	4,815,775	144,803	90	383	---		
Mexico.....	2,532,195	4,123,950	5,446,716	6,229,250	838,795		
Other Countries....	92,191	1,025,362	533,639	966,374	64,829		
	:	:	:	:	:		
Total.....	8,576,703	8,710,393	8,283,149	9,145,318	1,056,914		

SISAL GRASS: IMPORTS INTO THE UNITED STATES BY COUNTRIES. YEARS ENDING JUNE 30, Ave.  
1910-1914, 1921, 1922, 1923 AND JULY TO OCT. 1923.

<u>Country</u>	: Average :		1921	1922	1923	: July to Oct.:	
	: 1910-1914 :	: Tons :				: 1923.	
	: Tons :		: Tons :		: Tons :		
	(2,240 lbs.)	(2,240 lbs.)	(2,240 lbs.)	(2,240 lbs.)	(2,240 lbs.)	(2,240 lbs.)	
British E. Africa...	32	3,193	1,316	3,104	722		
British W. Indies...	3,147	1,037	964	2,255	543		
Dutch E. Indies....	691	8,093	3,085	8,932	2,802		
England (U.K.)....	648	2,268	770	1,185	90		
Germany .....	7,157	--	50	370	190		
Mexico .....	128,314	142,592	64,720	77,383	20,876		
Other Countries ...	326	1,337	1,454	4,353	3,493		
	:	:	:	:	:		
Total.....	140,315	153,530	72,559	97,562	23,716		

SOURCE: Foreign Commerce and Navigation of the United States 1914, and Official Record of Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce 1922 and 1923.

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